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Photo Contest Winners Announced

LYNDHURST, N.J. – The New Jersey Meadowlands Commission today announced the winners of its Nature of the Meadowlands photo contest.

First Place, for \$500, was won by Diane Cismowski of Secaucus for her photograph titled “The Balance.” Second place, for \$250, was won by Laura Rodrigues of North Arlington for her photograph titled “Meadowlands Dusk.” Third Place, for \$100, was won by Donna Hewa of North Arlington for her photograph titled “Breakfast Buddies.”

“As we seek to cultivate a sense of place - following the Meadowlands Master Plan - it’s rewarding to see such visions of our District crafted by our residents,” said NJMC Chairman and Department of Community Affairs Acting Commissioner Charles A. Richman. “It is another way of showing how far we have come since the ecological dark ages that this region experienced. Hidden in plain sight, New Jersey has such a jewel here in the Meadowlands.”

Three honorable mentions were also announced including Angel Reytor of Jersey City for “Migrate in the Meadow,” Thomas Yezerski of Rutherford for “Cedar Stumps and Koelle Boulevard,” and Timothy Adair Griffith of Secaucus for “The Great Egret in Flight.”

“Congratulations to all our Meadowlands photographers that participated in this contest,” said NJMC Executive Director Robert Ceberio. “It’s so good to see the artistic spirit of our District reveal itself in this way. We are also grateful to the volunteer Arts Advisory Board that selected the winners for us, I know it was a tough decision and we appreciate the time and thoughtfulness they put into this worthy project.”

The top three photos, as well as a selection of the 92 entries for the contest, will be on display in the NJMC’s Flyway Gallery during January 2006. The contest was open to amateur photographers who reside in the 14 Meadowlands District Municipalities -- Carlstadt, East Rutherford, Little Ferry, Lyndhurst, Moonachie, North Arlington, Ridgfield, Rutherford, South Hackensack and Teterboro in Bergen County; Kearny, Secaucus, Jersey City and North Bergen in Hudson County.

Electronic copies of the photos are available to the media upon request.

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